

27 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 27 December 1965

Mr. Helms was in the chair as Acting DCI.

DD/I reported on a draft paper from DOD/ISA concerning the possibility of [REDACTED] intelligence information as a means of building an enduring U. S. -

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[REDACTED] The paper includes some operational proposals in addition. The ISA paper is being sent forward to the Acting DCI. In DD/I's view, the ISA paper is not likely to survive DOD and/or State Department staffing.

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[REDACTED] briefed on the Vietnam military situation including the stand-down on all U. S. air operations, save for drones, over NVN. He noted a ChiCom MIG-19 shootdown of a drone over NVN airspace on 24 December. There was some question as to the firmness of the evidence regarding the ChiCom role in this shootdown, and the Acting DCI asked Sheldon to ensure that ChiNat intercepts are used as a double-check of this incident.

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[REDACTED] noted the presence of eleven MIG-21's or SU-9's at Phuc Yen airbase near Hanoi. DD/I noted that Senator Symington had said that MACV was very much concerned about the presence of MIG-21's in NVN and regarded them as superior to U. S. tactical aircraft. It was suggested that the MIG-21 performance characteristics be compared with those of the F-104 and F-105.

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[REDACTED] briefed on the Dominican Republic situation.

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DD/S&T reported on word from SAC "confirming" the presence of C-band Fan Song radar in NVN. This is being checked here. If it proves out, it will be the first instance other than Cuba where this advanced radar used by SA-2's has been stationed.

DD/S&T reported on weekend work, with NSA and ORR participation, assessing the "ripple firing" of a considerable number of various types of Soviet ICBM's over the past ten days or so. The assessment is carried in this morning's CIB.

DD/S&T reported the successful launch of a CORONA on 24 December. First bucket will be recovered on 29 December. We hope to obtain some coverage relating to the ICBM firings.

DD/S&T reported that the TACKLE detachment [redacted] is ready for operations and flights will take place weather permitting.

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Mr. Helms referred to a note from [redacted] who says that relations with Secretary Vance are quite good. [redacted] suggests that we look into any unsolved problems remaining with DOD and take steps to get them solved. In this respect, DD/S&T mentioned the problem of jurisdictional arrangements and handling procedures for "space garbage." It was agreed that DD/S&T would prepare a memo outlining our views as to the procedures to be employed. The memo will then be put before USIB for concurrence.

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In answer to Mr. Helms' query, Kent said he was meeting with Walt Rostow this afternoon. This is a follow-up to Rostow's recent offer to pass along ideas he has to improve NIE's.

[redacted]

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L. K. White